(c) whether Government had allowed on previous occasions the FBI or CIA to question any accused person who committed the crime in our country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) As per available information, no police official has been deputed yet to visit USA to question David Coleman Headley.

(b) and (c) There exists a Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty in criminal matters between India and the USA. Cooperation is extended in terms of the provisions of this Treaty, on a case to case basis.

NGOs in North East

1468. SHRI O. T. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) operating in small States particularly in North-East could reap the benefits generally available to NGO in view of the lack of awareness in them about the procedure;

(b) if so, the benefits of grants, if any, made available to the NGOs operating in North-Eastern region particularly in Sikkim during the last three years; and

(c) how does the benefits or grants availed by these States fare with the grants/benefits availed by big States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Report of central team on Andhra Pradesh floods

1469. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the central Team which was to visit the flood and drought affected districts of Andhra Pradesh had visited the State;

(b) if so, the details of report submitted by the Team for relief and rehabilitation in the State;

(c) the amount of assistance recommended by the Team; and

(d) the details of action that has been contemplated or proposed to be taken in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (d) Upon receipt of a memorandum from the Government of Andhra Pradesh, seeking financial assistance for floods of Sept.-October 2009, an Inter-Ministerial Central Team visited the affected areas for an on-the-spot assessment on 26th - 29th October, 2009. The

report of the Central Team has been considered by the Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) on 26th November 2009 and thereafter, is to be placed before High Level Committee (HCL) for approval of assistance from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF).

With regard to drought 2009, an Inter-Ministerial Central Team visited the affected areas for an on-the-spot assessment on 3rd -6th November, 2009. IMG will consider the report of the Inter-Ministerial Central Team shortly, and thereafter, it will be placed before High Level Committee (HLC) for approval of assistance from NCCF.

Provident card number

1470. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the decision of Labour Standing Committee and Indian Labour Conference for giving one provident card number to each beneficiaries could not be implemented; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) earlier planned the allotment of a unique Provident Fund number called the Social Security Number (SSN) for members/subscribers of EPFO.

The project under which the Social Security Number was initially planned has since been reviewed and a revised project implementation plan has been developed in collaboration with National Informatics Centre (NIC). It is currently being implemented since April, 2008. Under, the revised strategy a de-centralised approach has been adopted with member-databases and application with each office of EPFO and hence Provident Fund Card number *i.e.* SSN is not mandatory for getting services from EPFO and existing numbers itself will be sufficient for obtaining the services. However, after computerisation of all the offices of EPFO in this first phase of modernisation project, the provision of unique Provident Fund number will be restored in the second phase of the project.

Implementation of RSBY in A.P.

1471. SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Andhra Pradesh has not initiated the process of implementation of Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) for families of unorganized sector workers under BPL category;

(b) whether it is also a fact that not even a single Smart Card has been issued to any BPL family in Andhra Pradesh;